verification, it was found that the two establishments had already deposited the employees' share of provident fund contribution upto March, 1986 and that no complaints under section 406/409 IPC had been filed against them. The reply given to the Starred Question No. 267 on 5-3-86 was, therefore, corrected through statement made in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th November, 1986.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Provident Fund due from employers

2211. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1609 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th March, 1986 regarding provident fund due from employers and state the amount not transferred till 31st March, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): According to available information, the exempted establishments had not transferred to their Board of Trustees, provident fund contributions amounting to Rs. 84.24 crores, as on 31st March, 1986.

Sale of adulterated wine

2212. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been considerable increase in the sale of adulte rated wine/hooch in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of persons who died after taking such wine in each State during the last one year; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to stop illegal sale of wine/hooch in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Action for the detection/investigation and prevention of illegal sale of adulterated wine/hooch is taken by the State Government/Union Territory Administrations as 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State Subjects. The data in this regard are not collected by the Centre. Steps for stopping illegal sale of wine are taken by the individual State Government/Union Territory Administrations.

Export of groundnuts

2213. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to export groundnuts;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the names of the countries to which groundnuts will be exported;

(d) what are the terms of export; and

(e) what is the quantum of foreign exchange likely to be earned as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) Exports of HPS Groundnuts are permitted on OGL as per present Export Policy.

(c) Our traditional markets for export of HPS Groundnut are the

U.K., Holland, West Germany and USSR. In recent years, the bulk of our export of this commodity have been to USSR.

(d) No specific terms of export are stipulated in respect of HPS Groundnut. While exports to GCA are against 100 per cent letter of credit, the export to Rupee payment Currency areas have as per recent amendment been permitted against 98 per cent irrevocable letter of credit subject to the balance 2 per cent being repatriated within 6 months from the date of shipment of the first consignment.

(e) As against an export target of Rs. 2000 crores for the year 1986-87, the export of HPS Groundnut are likely to be approximately Rs. 25.00 crores.

Write-up captioned "Forest Policy Unheeded"

2214. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the write-up published in the Hindustan Times of the 14th January, 1987 captioned "Forest Policy unheeded";

(b) whether it is a fact that the National Forest Policy of bringing one-third of the geographical areas under forest has failed as 43.28 lakh hectares of forest land has been lost from 1952 to 1980 and that recently 7 lakh hectares of forest land is under encroachment in various States and Union Territories; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to implement the National Forest Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objective of increasing the forest area to one-third of the geographical area of the country, has not been attained.

(c) The followng steps are being taken by the Government to implement the National Forest Policy:—

(i) Reforestation of degraded forests.

(ii) Afforestation of wastelands to reduce biological pressure on existing forests.

(iii) Soil, water and tree conservation in the Himalayas (Operation Soil-Watch).

(iv) Development of infrastructure for the protection of forests from biotic intereference.

(v) Creation of National Parks and Wildlife sanctuaries.

(vi) Implementation of the Forest Conservation. Act, 1980 to check diversion of forest lands for non-forest purposes.

(vii) Issue of guidelines from the Centre for the better management and protection of existing forests.

(viii) Development of alternative sources for domestic energy.

(ix) Substitution of wood by alternative material in packing, railway sleepers and building construction.

(x) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been initiated wherein the Central Government would provide matching contribution to the States on non-recurring items of expenditure to afford special protection to the identified areas.

(xi) The National Forest Policy is being reviewed with a view to provide the needed thrust in favour of forest conservation.